

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 02498 301521Z

66

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 301510Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1829

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

4UQMJR/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 305

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2498

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, SY

SUBJ: BOMBINGS IN DAMASCUS - PFLP PRINCIPAL SUSPECT

REF: DAMASCUS 2348

1. DISCUSSED STATUS OF SARG INVESTIGATION BOMBINGS OF NCR PREMISES IN DAMASCUS AND ALEPPO WITH COS SHIHABI OCTOBER 29. SHIHABI STATED THAT INVESTIGATION CONTINUES AND LEADS NOW SUGGEST AUTHOR OF THESE INCIDENTS WAS MORE LIKELY HABASH AND THE PFLP THAN JABRIL'S PFLP-GENERAL COMMAND.

2. SHIHABI ASKED IF I HAD SEEN RECENT ISSUE OF BEIRUT'S AL-HADAF (PFLP LEANING) COMPALINING ABOUT SARG'S ARREST OF PFLP PERSONNEL. SAID I HAD NOT BUT WOULD ASK OUR EMBASSY IN BEIRUT TO CHECK FOR ARTICLE.

3. NCR MANAGER, GEORGE ABDINI, HAS TOLD ECON OFFICER HE UNDERSTANDS SOME 22 INDIVIDUALS ARE NOW UNDER INTERROGATION CONCERNING ASSOCIATION WITH THESE FOUR INCIDENTS WHICH BEGAN WITH AUGUST BOMBING OF US PAVILION AT DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL FAIR.

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MURPHY

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NNN

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